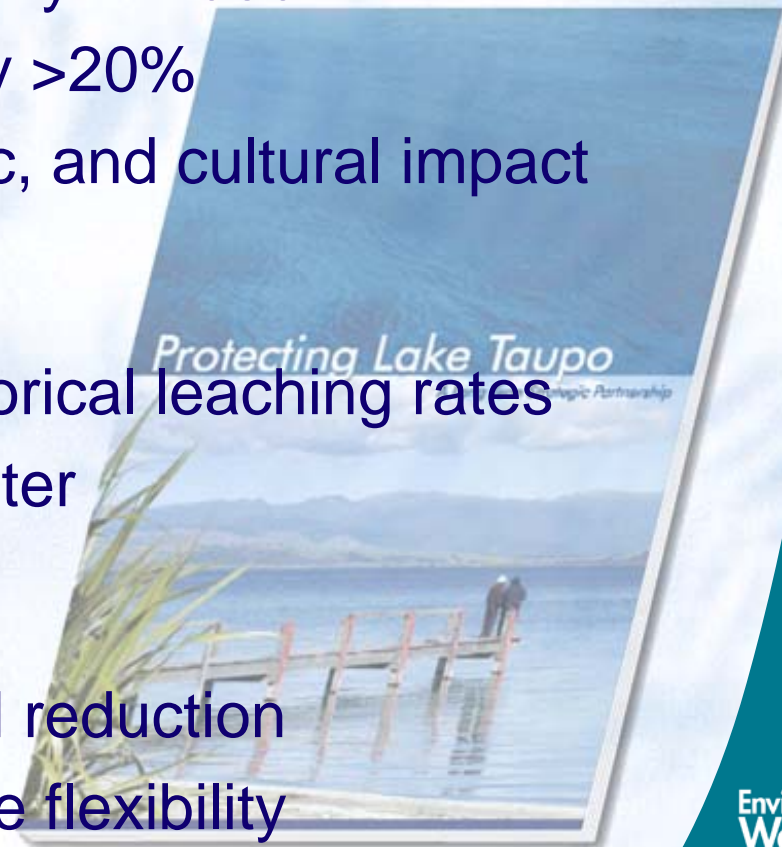


Protecting Lake Taupo *a partnership approach*

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Policy Components

- Objective
 - Lake looks like it does today in 2080
 - Reduce manageable N by >20%
 - Minimise social, economic, and cultural impact
- Regulatory tools
 - Cap N loss based on historical leaching rates
 - Rules for onsite waste water
- Non regulatory tools
 - Public fund to purchase N reduction
 - Nitrogen trading to provide flexibility
 - Research, development and extension



Lake Taupo Environment Court

- Nine parties appealed
 - EW resolved most issues - more flexibility for forestry and undeveloped land
- Court hearings set down for 7 weeks
 - Hearing time halved midway through when one party withdrew
- Key Matters Awaiting Decision
 - Plan drafting matters
 - Are rules land use rules or land use and discharge rules?
 - Permitted Activity vs Controlled Activity
 - N leaching from forests planted on pasture, gorse and broom

Land Use Rules - Farms

- New diffuse source controls - challenge is to make farming rules certain and simple
- Key drivers for N leaching in consent
 - N fertiliser
 - New technologies
 - Cultivation
 - Stocking rate
 - Bought in feed
- Monitoring farm plan
 - Random audits and minimal red tape - only check what's needed

Land Use Rules

- Nitrogen discharge allowance (NDA)
 - Total N allowed to leach from property
- NDA is part of farm consent
 - Overseer model with auditable records
- Historical N allocation
 - preserves farmers' existing income without changing existing income of foresters
 - Some flexibility for undeveloped land

Providing Flexibility

- Farmers can trade their NDAs
 - Sell to the trust
 - Subdivide
 - Match land use with capability
- Amend their Nitrogen Management Plan and resource consent
- Flexibility allowance for owners of undeveloped land
- Minimal bureaucracy to confirm trade has occurred